

Public Law 99-342  
99th Congress

## Joint Resolution

June 19, 1986

[S.J. Res. 347]

To designate the week beginning June 22, 1986, as "National Homelessness Awareness Week".

Whereas an estimated 3,000,000 individuals in the United States are homeless;

Whereas an increasing number of homeless individuals are women, children, families, minorities, mental patients, and elderly individuals;

Whereas the demand for emergency shelter increased by more than 20 percent in 22 cities in 1985;

Whereas many emergency shelters do not have sufficient space to provide shelter for everyone who seeks shelter;

Whereas many emergency shelters are in violation of numerous health and safety standards;

Whereas factors contributing to the problem of homelessness include shortages in housing for low-income individuals, deinstitutionalization of mentally ill individuals, drug and alcohol abuse, and unemployment;

Whereas homelessness is a complex problem that cannot be solved by providing only food and shelter;

Whereas many organizations are committed to helping homeless individuals in the United States by providing food, clothes, shelter, and medical treatment;

Whereas public awareness with respect to the problem of homelessness should be increased; and

Whereas efforts by the Federal Government and the governments of States to solve the problem of homelessness should be increased: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the week beginning June 22, 1986, is designated as "National Homelessness Awareness Week", and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Approved June 19, 1986.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 347:**

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 132 (1986):

May 21, considered and passed Senate.

May 22, considered and passed House, amended.

June 10, Senate concurred in House amendments.